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# Senate confirms EPA air chief Goffman in a squeaker

Joe Goffman waited nearly two years for confirmation. He won on a tight vote as Republicans blasted him as a "climate zealot."

BY: **KEVIN BOGARDUS, SEAN REILLY** | 02/01/2024 06:15 AM EST



Joe Goffman during a hearing on Capitol Hill. | Francis Chung/POLITICO

**E&E DAILY** | One of President Joe Biden's more arduous confirmation battles came to an end Wednesday as the Senate approved his pick to lead EPA's powerful air office.

The Senate confirmed Joe Goffman as assistant administrator for the agency's Office of Air and Radiation by a tight 50-49 vote. Goffman had been waiting for approval for almost two years since Biden first nominated him for the job in March 2022.

All senators who caucus with Democrats voted for Goffman, except Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.), chair of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. Manchin had said he would oppose the nominee due to Goffman's record in drafting climate change regulations.

He joined all Republican senators present to vote against Goffman's confirmation. Sen.



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